UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORKX	USDC SDNY DOCUMENT ELECTRONICALLY FILED DOC #: DATE FILED: 2/26/2024
STANDARDAERO AVIATION HOLDINGS, INC.,	
Plaintiff,	22-CV-07515 (MMG)(SN)
-against-	<u>ORDER</u>
SIGNATURE AVIATION LIMITED,	
<b>Defendant.</b>	

## SARAH NETBURN, United States Magistrate Judge:

The parties filed a letter raising a discovery dispute. ECF Nos. 66, 67. In that letter, Defendant claims that Plaintiff did not adequately prepare its two corporate representatives, Joe Capra and Brad Guest, to testify as Rule 30(b)(6) witnesses. Defendant asks the Court either to preclude Plaintiff from offering any new evidence related to the relevant Rule 30(b)(6) notice topics or to compel Plaintiff to produce a properly prepared witness and to pay any attorneys' fees and costs related to the additional deposition. Plaintiff argues that Capra and Guest were properly prepared, objects to the relief sought by Defendant, and offers to produce another witness to resolve this dispute.

Having reviewed the parties' joint letter, the Rule 30(b)(6) notice, the transcripts, and the additional exhibits, the Court finds that Capra and Guest were not properly prepared to testify. For example, Topic 8 required Capra to testify about "Any damages you allege were caused by Signature's alleged breach of the Agreement, including but not limited to the matters set forth in the Damages Letter," but Capra testified that he did not know how the damages were calculated. Capra Tr., 146:7-149:10. Topic 2 required Brad Guest to testify about the "drafting, negotiation, execution, and/or performance of the Agreement, including but not limited to Section 6.01,

Schedule 6.01(c)(xix), Exhibit 6.01(c)(xix), and any defined terms used therein." Guest,

however, was unable to answer whether a representative of Plaintiff ever communicated its

understanding of Section 6.01(c)(xix)(B) to Defendant during negotiations. Guest Tr., 33:4-12.

Although Capra and Guest were not fully prepared to testify, their unpreparedness was

far from egregious. Capra consulted with several people and reviewed relevant documents while

preparing to testify. Capra Tr., 17:20-18:12. Guest was able to answer many questions, including

questions about Plaintiff's interpretation of the word "none" in Schedule 6.01(c)(xix) of the SPA.

Guest Tr., 36:5-37:23. Additionally, Defendant's questions to Guest about Plaintiff's litigation

strategy fell beyond the scope of the Rule 30(b)(6) notice topics; none of the notice topics

required Guest to testify about positions taken by Plaintiff in court filings.

The deficiencies in Capra's and Guest's testimony do not warrant preclusion or sanctions.

Instead, Plaintiff shall produce a properly prepared witness for an additional deposition.

Accordingly, discovery is REOPENED until March 15, 2024, for the limited purpose of

conducting the additional deposition. If Plaintiff produces an unprepared witness, Defendant may

renew its application for Plaintiff to cover all attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection

with the additional deposition.

SO ORDERED.

SARAH NETBURN

United States Magistrate Judge

DATED:

February 26, 2024

New York, New York

2